

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR OPTIMIZING ONLINE AUCTIONS

Rose K. Davis
Elizabeth R. Hainley

5 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

 A method for determining the configuration of a hardware item use with an
online auction system is disclosed. The configuration is determined by sending a
unique code to the manufacturer that manufactured the hardware and receiving
configuration data corresponding to the hardware. The configuration is further
10 determined by executing configuration utility software that analyzes the hardware
using diagnostic routines as well as analyzing the operating system registry for
hardware information. Re-use of components in the old computer system in a new
computer system is also disclosed for maximizing total value of the purchase of a new
computer system by re-using high value components. The method retrieves the street
15 price corresponding to the old computer system and subtracts the price from the new
computer price without the reused components in order to minimize the cost of the
transaction. A computer system for receiving configuration data and submitting an
auction description to an online auction site is further disclosed.